The First News Lord Howe Island Heard of the World in Malf a Year-A Colony That Has Paid Officials but Doesn't Pay Taxes-Men Fined for Swearing on Norfolk-Bichest Woman Among the Islands

A while ago sixty-three persons, the entire population of a little island in the Pacific Ocean, ped down to the landing place wild with joy and excitement. They saw a small steamer enering through a gap in the coral reef that fringes their island and moving alowly toward the wharf. The only horse on the island was purriedly hitched to his cart and trotted away to the landing with all the children the vehicle could hold to help honor the occasion. No wonder the fifteen families on Lord Howe Island sheered and threw up their hats. It was the first time in half a year that they had heard you the outer world. They were beginning to think that they were formaken when the steam Thetis from Sydney suddenly appeared in the offing, bringing supplies for the handful of

ple on this little rock in the big ocean. It happened in this way: Though Lord Howe Island is about 450 miles out in the ocean, it is solitically a part of New South Wales. Norolk Island, several hundred miles still further out at sea, is also, nominally, a part of this Australian province, though she lets both islands shift for themselves most of the time. Four times a year the mail schooner Mary Ogilvie has been sent out from Sydney to visit the sceanic outposts. On her last trip the schooner was totally wrecked on the precipitous coast o Norfolk Island. It took some months for the news to reach Sydney and the despatch of another vessel, and so it happened that Lord Howe Island was cut off from the rest of the

world for half a year.

The return of the Thetis with news of the tslanders has brought the colonists of Lord Howe and Norfolk into a prominent place in the columns of the Australian press. Lord Howe is one of the smallest inhabited islands of any ocean, and is typical of the few rocks scattered here and there which give sustenance to a handful of people. It is shaped exactly like a nerang. It is eight miles long and from one and a half to two miles wide. Its basalt sides rise in places 3,000 feet above the surface of the sea. It is nothing but a prodigious rock thrust into the air by plutonic forces; and one would think that people would be willing to scratch very hard for a living before they would isolate themselves in such a home.

But this half tropical island has extraordinary erdure and beauty. A reporter of one of the Sydney papers, who was sent out on the Thetis, says he never saw anything so picturesque as the towering mountains dotted here and there with the little white cottages of the fitteen families who stood cheering at the water Strange to relate, one of the largest buildings is the prison, and it would be the most useless building on the island if it were not ntilized as a general storehouse. It has not held a prisoner since 1869, when an American was killed in a fight over a woman. Next door to the prison is the schoolhouse, and this contiguity, under the circumstances, is not so very obwas leading seventeen little folks along the path of knowledge when the cry was raised, "A ship at last!" and school was dismissed instanter.

But the people of the little island are not very happy, and they blame New South Wales for it. Nobody owns the land he tills. The island has never been surveyed, and the people are not yet permitted to hold land in severalty. The young folks tire of the isolated life, and most of them emigrate to the mainland. Over four hundred of them have left their native iale, and this is the reason why Lord Howe Island, though white milies have lived there for more than fifty pears, has to-day a population of only sixty-three. But the humble people have their blessings. There isn't a physician among them, and most of them die of old age. Their medicine cheet contains only one specific for all illis, and that is camphor. The all-pervading grip struck them a couple of years ago, casting gloom over the community. They raise plenty to eat, but they are very poor because they export so little. A few years ago the cucumbers of Lord Howe island were more highly prized in Australia for pickle making than the home product, but of late years the island cucumbers have developed a sudden tendency to rot on the vines and Australia no longer looks to them for pickles. There is no such thing as theft, drunk-enness, or profanity on the island, but for all that the natives seem to lack a good deal that makes life worth living.

After a few days the Thetis steamed away, 500 miles, to Norfolk island, to put this other speck in the osean again in touch with the world. Small as it is, Norfolk is five times a large as Lord Howe Island. Everybody has heard of the Pitcairn fislanders, but there may be many who do not know that three-fourths of the descendants of the Bounty mutineers and their Tahlitian wives no longer live on Pitcairn, but for nearly forty years have tilled the soil of Norfolk or hunted the whale around its coasts. It was in 1850 that the Pitcairn colony, grown too large for their two or three square miles of territory, were all transferred to Norfolk, where these simple, God-fearing people were in striking contrast with the convict colony Great Britain had maintained there. The last of these poor wetches had been taken away, and an era years, has to-day a population of only sixtyree. But the humble people have their bless

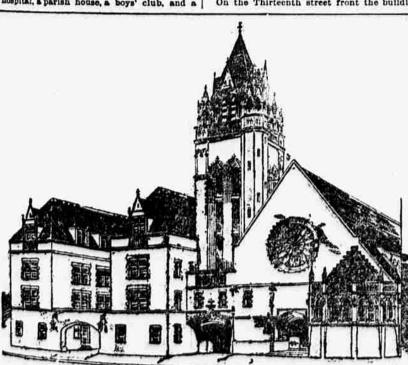
heard of the Pitcairn Islandera, but there may be many who do not know that three-fourths of the descendants of the Bounty mutineers and their Tahlitan wives no longer live on Pitcairn, but for nearly forty years have tilled the soil of Norfolk or hunted the whale around its coasts, it was in 1850 that the Pitcairn colony, grown too large for their two or three square miles of territory, were all transferred to Norfolk, where these simple, tood-fearing people were in striking contrast with the convict colony Great Britiain had maintained there. The last of these poor wretches had been taken away, and an era of peace successed the days of violence and bloodshed when the convicts, treated with incredible severity, were shot down even in the church where they sometimes took refuge.

Two years after their removal to Norfolk island twenty-eight of the Pitcairn natives, homesick for the beloved rock on which they were born, were taken back to it, and their de-

NEW GRACE CHAPEL. A Group of Buildings Erected by Grac Church in Pourteenth Street,

The new buildings for Grace Chapel, erected by Grace Church, fronting on Thirteenth street and on Fourteenth street, 125 feet on each street, and running 203 feet through the block. just east of First avenue, are now approaching completion. They comprise a chapel or church a hospital, a parish house, a boys' club, and a

scendants are the Pitcairn Islanders of to-day. Their relatives on Norfolk have admitted a good many strangers into the colony, but still the most conspictous names are the Christians, McCoys, Quintals, Ademses, and Youngs of the original mutineers. No more skilful and fear-skilled and the strangers of the construction of the constr



elergy house. There is a large interior court. The illustration here presented shows the buildings on the Fourteenth street front of the group, the chapel and hospital.

The projection seen on the right of the plature, which is the side nearest First avonue, is the apse of the morning chapel, adjoining the main entrance to the church. The seating capacity of the morning chapel is about 100; it is lightened for various occasions when the main body of the church will seat about 700.

The middle entrance shown in the picture. It will be used, however, as a hospital in the ordinary acceptation of that term, but a home for aged men and women and for little children. It will be used, however, as a hospital in the ordinary acceptation of that term, but a home for aged men and women and for little children. It will be used, however, as a hospital for such emergency cares as may arise in the parish. It is expected that the buildings will be ready for occupancy early in the fall.

The style of these buildings is French Gothic; the materials used, brown Pompelian brick haid in cement of the same color, and terra cotta; the cost about \$280,000. The architects are Barney & Chapman.

BRONCO COUNTY'S G. O. P THE REPUBLICAN TIDAL WAVE IN

NORTHWEST TEXAS. The Grand Old Party in the County Was Arrested, Found Crasy, and Banished, and Democratic Confidence Restored,

From the St. Louis Globe-Democrat, SAN ANTONIO, Tex., April 17 .- Away up in the orthwest corner of Texas, along the line of New Mexico, lies Bronco county, large in area, but small as to population. Almost in its centre is the county seat. Quietville, strung out along the pellucid current of Lost Cow Creek. There is a Court House there and a jail, out of all proportion in size to the demands of the town or county; but the legal business of twentythree counties is transacted there by Circuit Judge, who holds court twice a year. During the interval the main business is the recording of cattle brands and the many changes. In the town are a dozen scattered 'dobys" doing duty as residences, three or four

the recording of cattle brands and the many changes. In the town are a dozen scattered "dobys" doing duty as residences, three or four tents, an equal number of dug-outs along the creek bank, two stores, carrying goods pertinent to cattle outfits, and a sshoon with a bar in front and a barber chair in the back. The owner of this institution was not only bartender and barber, but also Justice of the Peace.

As to politics, Bronco county has always been unanimously Democratic. No dissenting vote was ever cast. There are but sixty-four qualified voters, whose numbers and opinions, as expressed by the ballot, have been unchanged for these many years. On election days there are three clerks and one judge of election, who have a good time to themselves, clerks drawing \$4 each and the Judgo \$6 for their day's work. The ballot counting is a mere formality, as every-body knows how many and what, are the votes. True, the State Republican Committee sends up a bunch of ballots every election, addressed to the Chairman of the Republican County Committee of Bronco county, but as there is no such man, Justice of the Peace Simmons takes them and uses thom as lather wipers in his barber business, the paper being soft and well adapted fer such use. As is well known, the late November Republican tidal wave was prophesied and looked for all over the country. The rumor of its approach caused no tremors in Bronco county. On the morning of that fateful day Col. Noper, big cattleman and prominent citizen, acted as judge, and he and the clerks paid no attention to the voting during the day, but when the poil closed they proceeded, as usual, with the farce of counting. This wontalong smoothly until a tremendous and startling discovery was made. There were sixty-flow votes instead of the old-time sixty-four, and of the sixty-five one was a straight, uncompromising, unscratched Republican ticket.

The immortal Father of our Country was not more astonished and chagrined when he first heard of Benedict Arnold's treason than were and put it

For Mix. Erms E. Prowythe the daughter of Mrs. Erms E. Prowythe the daughter of Mrs. Erms E. Prowythe the daughter of Mrs. Trees and extended in Star Francisco, and the daughter of Mrs. Erms and American irrup in that region and within the last freeze years, among the daughter of Mrs. Erms and American irrup in that region and within the last freeze years, among the daughter of Mrs. Erms and t

ever, and rising, with difficulty, said he wanted a lawyer. The Justice frowned and the jury looked suspicious.

"Prisoner at the bar, there ain't no lawyer here. The prosecution hasn't got one cither. Hecause there ain't lawyers is no reason why law shouldn't be enforced and crime put down. Colonel, proceed to lay your evidence before the jury." This was said with great dignity, and showed that Justice Simmons hadn't watched the proceedings of his superior Judge during term time for nothing.

It was shown that the prisoner had in his custody a flock of sheep and was grazing them in a country devoted entirely to raising cattle. The known antipathy of the cow man to the sheep man was so notorious and the danger attending such intrusion so widely known that it was impossible to conceive of any man with sense attempting such a thing. This was a good point and had an evident effect on the jury. It was shown that the prisoner had been very abusive toward everybody, and very violent in his demonstrations the night before at Simmons's, and the search or him upon his arrest disclosed that he was totally unarmed when he did so. That an unarmed man should do such a thing at such a place was undoubtable evidence of insanity. As a clincher, it was shown that the prisoner had on such a thing at such a place was undoubtable evidence of insanity. As a clincher, it was shown that the prisoner had on being taxed with it had gloried in his infamy, and had reviled the sacred uame of Democracy. If the prisoner had possessed sonse enough to understand what was being done he would have lost hope right here, but he had been asleep all through the testimony. He was shaken and waked up.

"Prisoner at the bar," said the Justice, "we've heard the case against you, and it's mighty strong. It's your turn now. If you got mighty strong, It's your turn now. If you got mighty strong, It's your turn ow. If you got mighty strong, It's your turn ow. If you got mighty strong, It's your turn ow. If you got mighty strong, It's your turn ow. "Prisone

something kin to intelligence glinted in his bleared eyes, "I've been up agin the court 200 or 300 times. When I said 'not guilty' I always got a heavler dose than if I hadn't. I don't know what I've been a doin', but you all seem to know. It's done. I don't give a d-n. I pleade guilty. I hope it ain't no hanging thing. Glinme what you want to and lemme have a drink. Cold water'l hit me right."

Cold water! What insanity!

The Justice cautioned the jury:

"It ain't right to take a confession under such circumstances. The feller says he's guilty, but we'll have to get your verdict on it. You can believe him or not, as you want to. I don't see no reason, as there sin't no lawyer, for any speeches to be made. I don't think the Colonel wants to, and you can see the feller ain't able to, I will now charge you." The jury looked uneasy. "Don't be skeered, it ain't goin' to cost you saything." The jury felt relieved and smiled. "You've heard the evidence. If you believe the feller's crazy, say so quick; if you don't, say so just as oulck. Don't git in no fights or disputes or any delays, for I've got to shave a whole raft of fellers, and the bar's closed and losin' money, for I can't trust nobody to run it when I'm away, Mr. Sheriff, examine the jury and take away all whiskey, guns, kniver, and cards. Let 'em keep their tobacco."

This order produced no surprise, being a time-honored custom and having sound reason for its origin, Whiskey produced argument, discussion, and fights; the weapons vastly aggravated the danger of the fighting; the cards were simply assurances of interminable delays, for no juror would try to arrive at a verdict as long as there was a game on.

The search revealed nothing, as the jury had been there before and had deposited such belongings with friends in the audience. They retted and almost immediately returned, announcing their agreement." said the Court. "Let us hear the verdict," said the Court.

"Wa air shore agreed." said the Sourt.

longings with friends in the audience. They retrired and almost immediately returned, announcing their agreement.

"Let us hear the verdict," said the Court.

"We air shore agreed," said the six-foot foreman, cow puncher in ordinary in the service of the Colonel. "We, the jury, find the prisoner crazy if he stays in Broncho county. We advise him to git. If he gits we think he has some sense left him, though it's mighty little."

"The Court finds according as the jury says," for the Justice, true to his barber instincts, was inclined to be loquacious. "As the fellow's in this county now, he's crazy. The evidence shows he was just as crazy yesterday. A crazy man's vote is no vote. Hence, it is ordered by this Court that the judge of election do cast out and forbear to/count the said vote of the aforesaid crazy man in order that the peace and dignity of the State of Texas and Broncho county may and shall be preserved. Mr. Sheriff, lock up the lunatic until he gets sober and then run him over the line, and his sheep along with him. Court's adjourned."

Whether the sheep man, when he sobered up.

Court's adjourned."

Whether the sheep man, when he sobered up realized his position is not known, but he am his sheep disappeared forthwith from tha county. Nothing was ever heard from him.

BRIGHT OUTLOOK FOR Y. M. C. A.

Warlem Grounds Free to Gymnasium Mem

bers-Brisk Sport in Other Branches, The athletic grounds of the New York city Y. M. C. A. were opened for the season last Saturday. During the past week they have been used by a considerable number of the Christian athletes. In fact the grounds will be patronized to a very great extent this year. The facilities at the grounds for track and field games are first rate. The inner field has two complete sets of apparatus, so that both men advanced in athletic sports and beginners have equal opportunity for practice. The cinder track is well built, and is considered "fast." The tennis courts are among the best in the city. In order that men, who work during the entire day may have a chance three nights each week, probably on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. There will be a fee of \$2 for the use of lockers at the grounds, but no one is obliged to hire a locker unless he chooses. As there is a limited number of lockers, only senior gymnasium members may secure the use of them. The boys of the junior departments of the various branches will be admitted to the grounds on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons from 3 until 5 o'clock and Saturday

to the grounds on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons from 3 until 5 o'clock and Saturday
mornings from 9 o'clock until noon.

A nominal fee is still charged for the use of
the boat house. The St. Lawrence skiffs afford
the beginners an opportunity for rowing, while
the racing boats, single, double, and pair-cared
gigs, give the initiated a chance to try their skill.
At the house there is also a large barge for the
use of excursion parties desiring to take a trip
on the Sound or up the Hudson. Swimming
and tub races are enjoyed at the boat house.
The members say that since the Harlem has
been opened through to the Hudson the water
at the boat house has been purer and better.
The Y. M. C. A. boat house is the only one on
the Harlem that is not opened on Sundays.

The game of basket ball bas no more enthusiastic supporters than the men and boys at
the Twenty-third street branch. The senior
team have won every game played so far this
season. The teams defeated have been the railroad branch, Young Men's Institute, Mt. Vernon, Washington Heights, Greenpoint, Stamford, Conn., and the Tee To Tun Club of this
city. The Twenty-third street champions
scored 00 points to 12 in the series.
Manager Kiniey has been trying to
arrange a game with the Philadelphia Y. M.
C. A. The committee appointed by the leaders'
corps of the gymnasium are arranging the programme for the spring exhibition, which will
be held in Association Hall. Twenty-third street
and Fourth avenue, next Friday evening.
There will be an intermediate examination of
gymnasium members on next Wednesday ovening. The Twenty-third street juniors' checker
tournament was won by Harry Hughes. A. E.
Adams took second prize.

The gymnasium men of the Harlem branch
records are being broken weekly.

The fourth annual banquet of the gymnasium
members of the East Eighty-sixth street branch
branch kymnasium exhibition consisted of a
dumb-beildrill, class work on the apparatus, and
special acts by members of the leaders' corps.

The bowling tournament at the Twenty mornings from 9 o'clock until noon.

THE U. OF P. RIPE FOR TAURELS. Athletes, Oarsmen, and Ball Players Get-

PHILADELPHIA, April 20.—There is much activity among University of Pennsylvania athletes, oarsmen, and ball players. Candidates for each branch of sport are going on in the right way and giving their coachers and admirers little cause for uneasiness. It is admitted that the tine has a very hard row to hoe, but the "black and red" may be relied on to cut a prominent

figure on track and water. From now on the crew will row upon the upper Schuylkill. No changes have been made in the positions of the men for some time, and Coach Woodruff thinks that the present order will be maintained. They row as follows: A. E. Bull, captain, stroke: H. P. Beck, 7: F. B. Hancock, 6; W. W. Woodruff, 5; W. Farrar, 4; J. H. Minds, 3: Charles Jack, 2: A. C. Peterson, bow. The men have been rowing in the barge until to-day, when they tried their new shell for the first time. The advantage of having the majority of the men in the boat experienced oarsmen became apparent, for whereas in former years ten to twelve days were wasted in getting the shell on an even keel, the boat was soon gliding along to-day straight and true.

Inspired by the success of last Saturday's games, the Track Association has decided to make the relay events an annual affair. Despite the bad condition of the track, many of the men are showing improved form. Next Tuesday the last of the series of spring handicaps will come off. In connection with them Pennington Seminary will run a relay race against Lawrenceville Academy. This race should have taken place last Saturday, but owing to an accident it was postponed. Considerable interest is being taken in the mile run, as Jarvis and Orton will meet for this first time on a Philadelphia track. The association intends sending a team to the Columbia games. May 4. Ramsdell, Bucholz, Judd. Middleton, Oggood, Coates, Wiborn, Leslie, Orton, and Jarvis will be sent over. Capt. Chatain of Columbia writes that T. P. Connerf has also entered in the mile. Orton, Jarvis, and Conneff should furnish an interesting mile race, even should none of the handicap men start.

The dual games with California have been definitely fixed for June 18. First places only will count points, and each university is privilered to have three men in each event.

During the visit of the Cornell and Harvard relay teams to Philadelphia recently, Capt. Orton of the cross-country team interviewed Capt. Rulison of Cornell and Capt. Blingham of Harvard relay teams to Philadelphia recently, Capt. Orton of the cross-country team interviewed Capt. Rulison of Cornell and Capt. Blingham of Harvard relay teams to Philadelphia recently, Capt. Orton of the cross-country team interviewed Capt. Hingham of Harvard the system of the Baseball team have brightened up considerably during the past ten days. The sound of the plan and practically promised to until to-day, when they tried their new shell for the first time. The advantage of having the

COLLECTING THE CUSTOMS.

HOW UNCLE SAM'S OFFICERS GATHER THE IMPORT DUTIES.

A Complete Description; of the Adventures of a Case of Bress Goods from the Time It Leaves the Leipste Manufactures Until It Reaches the Bestness House of the New York Importer Complications over to truck man.

This is the final step. There an many variations from the procedure described which would have resulted had there been anyif the complications which frequently occur. Uncle Sam having set out to inspect every oreign thing that enters his dominions, ha undertaken an enormous task, and his way of

accomplishing it indicates that he has recognized that. The laws under which the revenue is collected are so numerous that no one person, however good his memory, could hope to keep them all in mind. Under these laws the dutie are so divided that each official has some specific work, and is not required to bother with any other. The act of every official in the revenue service up to the Secretary of the Treasury nimself is supposed to be revised independently by some other official, and the results are compared at headquarters.

The actual happenings to merchandise brought

to this country from the time it first comes to the attention of our officials until it is placed in the possession of the person to whom it is ad-dressed are always practically the same. Take, for instance, some dress goods manufactured a Leipsic by Herr Carl Kaufmann and purchased by Mr. William Henry, a New York merchant The first recognition of our laws by Herr Kaufmann is when he marks upon the cases in which the goods are packed these words: "Made in Germany."

With this must appear the initials of Mr. Henry and the number which appears on the invoice, which is the official record of the transaction. Not only is the price which Mr. Henry has paid or agreed to pay for the goods stated the invoice, but also the number of yards, the price per yard, the character of the cloth, and the cost of boxing and other charges up to the These are now sent by Herr Kaufmann, with

sample of each of the kinds of merchandise in the cases, to the American Consul at Leipsic. Mr. Doederlein is supposed to compare the

the cases, to the American Consul at Legisland.

Mr. Doederlein is supposed to compare the samples with the values quoted in the involce, and to decide as to their correctness. Along lier Kastimann a declaration that he is a the samples with the values quoted in the involce, and to decide as to their correctness. Along lier Kastimann a declaration that he is a the select plant of the control o

the retained package has been appraised, and that in the meantime Mr. Henry shall not open the other cases without the Collector's or Surveyor's consent, and then in presence of an inspector.

When the stamping clerk has finished with Mr. Henry's papers he will apply to the entry clerk. He takes up Mr. Henry's bill of lading and invoice and compares both with the entry. If all agree, he stamps on the invoice in red ink a form which is filled in later on by other officials. Finally he computes the duttes according to the entry. The Naval Officer is now applied to. The duties are computed independently of the entry clerk's estimate, and if the two agree the Naval Officer checks the entry.

Mr. Henry goes to the cashier and pays the dutles assessed by the entry clerk. Mr. Henry may now go home. The entry and the invoice are separated, and the former goes to the Impost Bureau in the Auditor's Department, where all the computations are carefully gone over again, and a note is made of the amount of money which the cashier should have received. From the Impost Bureau it goes to the Statistical Bureau, where a digest of it is made for a report to the Treasury Department at Washington. The entry itself goes to the Liquidating Department, where it awaits the return of the invoice.

The latter is returned to the Eatry Division, and entered and copied in the book. Then a special measurer takes the original to the Public Stores, where its delivered to the Appraiser. The chief of the Invoice Bureau will send it up to the Fifth Division, where one of six special departments is devoted to Eaglish, Freuch, and German dress goods, and to the examiner in charge of that the invoice is sent by the assistant appraiser in charge of the division. Under orders from the sniry clerk, who designates which of the examiner in whose custody the box now is to open it, examiner in charge of the division. Under orders from the sniry clerk, who designates which of the examiner in whose custody the box now is to open it, examine the contents, and file an appeal within two days from the date of the letter.

Suppose that in this case the entry and invoice are found to correspond exactly with the estimate of the examiner and there is no further difficulty. The case is marked "Examined and passed as correct by "and on the invoice the examiner marks the word "correct." The invoice now goes back to the assistant appraiser, who approves the examiner afinding and signs his name. The Appraiser also approves and returns it to the Collector. The Collector compares the invoice as it now stands with the original entry, and if Mr. Henry's original deposit was sufficient to cover all the duties the Collector will now issue an order for the delivery to him of the case at the Public Stores. If the original deposit was not sufficient the case will be held until after the liquidation of the entry or until Mr. Henry makes sufficient deposit to cover the deficiency. The Naval Officients of the entry or until Mr. Henry makes sufficient deposit to cover the deficiency. The Naval Officients

cer makes a similar comparison are the Collector has finished, and, it he agree with the Collector, certifies to that effect on the entry which was originally filed in his olce. Then the other entry and the invoice and he certificate of correctness of the Naval Offier are sent to the Collector.

In order to secure his case, Mr. fenry now obtains a withdrawal order from the Naval Office, and has it stamped and marked "O. K." by the cashier of the Collector's "spartment. Armed with that he goes to the degity collector in charge of the Public Stores, we sends up to the Fifth Division and secures to case. Mr. Henry signs the receipt, and the ceo is turned over to truckman.

TENNIS EXPERTS ARE ACTIVE. Several Foreign Players My Visit U

The beginning of outdoor tenns play on the local courts last week marked he opening of the tennis season, although the crack players will not begin work in earnet for month, the first important togramment being the Southern Lawn Tennis Association champlonship, which begins on May D at Baltimore. Gordon Parker, the present Southern champion is a New Yorker, who was a beal crack last spring, but who is now well known in the tennis world. His luck down South in winning both singles and doubles last year-he also captured the Southern doubles with Fischer-has excited the envy of a swarm of New Yorkers and Brooklynites. Fischer, who is expected to loom up as a full-fledged expert later in the season, will be prevented by his law studies from helping his partner at Baltimore, but will be in evidence

The local crop of coming players is unusually large this spring. The West Side Tennis Club now boast of Parker as a full-deged ranked man, and expect Fischer to join him in the list. Calhoun Cragin is the infant "phenom" of the New Yorks, brilliant in practice games, but nervous and erratic in tournaments. R. N. Palmer is said by the Hohokus Valley Tennis Club to be an embryo world beater, while the Oranges have a stock of possibly strong players in R. T. Miles Jr., Holcombe Ward, and F. N. Jessup. There are plenty of possibilities in the Brooklyn clubs. A. E. Merian is thought to be equal to Parker by the members of the Brooklyn Tennis Club, and Joseph T. McMahon of the same club, the present champion of the Long Island Interscholastic League, is an ambitious and rapidly improving youngster. The local crop of coming players is unusually

scholastic League, is an ambitious and rapidly improving youngster.

The prospects for tonnis in and around New York are certainly better this year than last, as the Crescent Athletic Club and the Kings County Club, which have always confined their efforts to holding members' tournaments, will this season hold open contests. An open tournament will be held by the Kings County Club on June 3. The Crescent Athletic Club's tournament will be confined to six selected players, and will bring the experts nearer to New York than they have been since the discontinuance of the Westchester Country Club's tournament two or three years ago. These two contests, together with the west side tournament on June 10, the middle States championship at Orange on June 26, the Morris Park invitation tournament on July 8, and the numerous club contests will make the first section of the local season, which lasts until about July 15, were titled. The suburban clubs have almost

The season for women's tennis is likely to be spoiled by a serious mistake made by the schedule makers in holding the Middle States championship during the same week as the women's championships at Philadelphia. Miss Hellwig will defend her championship, and will be opposed by Miss Moore, Miss Atkinson, and Miss Erry from this neighborhood, and Miss Hankson, Miss Morgan, Miss Wistar, and Miss Williams of Philadelphia.

The State championship idea seems to be taking root, as eighteen State tournaments have been arranged this year. Four years ago the New York State championship stood almost alone. The new contests will be held mostly in Western States, an evidence of the growth of the game there. The contestants for these championships are supposed to reside within the State limits, but this rule is never enforced in the East.

the State limits, but this rule is never enforced in the East.

The vigorous protests of some far-sighted tennis cranks against having all the prizes for the big players show some results at last. V. G. Hall is at the head of a movement to have handicap tournaments as common here as in England. He contends that unless some attention is paid to the smaller fry, interest in the game will die out, as no new players will be trained to full the players of today. fill the places of the experts of to-day.

HEARINGS BEFORE THE MAYOR. The New Constitutional Provision Concern-ing Special City Laws,

Even among politicians, who ought to be informed concerning such matters, the new provision for public hearings on legislative bills before the Mayor is imperfectly understood. When a bill relating to New York city is passed by the Legislature it is sent down here for the consideration of the Mayor, and he can give or withhold his approval after a public hearing. This new procedure is not the result of any law passed by the Legislature or subject to legislative repeal, but of a provision of the Constitution as amended in November and known as Article XII. Special city laws, that article declares, shall not be passed except in conformity with the provision following:

clares, shall not be passed except in conformity with the provision following:

After any bill for a special city law, relating to a city, has been passed by both branches of the legislature, the House in which it originated shall immediately transmit a certificated copy to the Mayor of such city, and within fifteen days theroafter the Mayor shall return the full either to the House where it originated (if the Legislature is in season), or otherwise to the Governor with a certificate stating whether the city has, or has not, accepted the bill.

When the Mayor approves a bill affecting the city of which he is the official representative, it next goes to the Governor, whose signature is necessary to make it a law. If the Governor approves, after the Mayor has done so, it becomes a law; if the Governor refuses to give his assent, it fails to become a law, even though the Mayor has agreed to it. When a bill is disapproved by the Mayor it goes hack to the Legislature, and if repassed it then goes to the Governor. This amounts substantially to passing the bill over the Mayor's voto.

The Republican leaders in the Constitutional Convention, foresteing that New York, Brooklyn, and Buffalo, the three cities of the State which are of the first class, having over 250,000 inhabitants, would prehably have, as a general thing. Democratic Mayor, shrewilly provided that in these three cities the Legislature might provide for the concurrence of the Board of Aldermen or Board of Supervisors in place of the Mayor. If, therefore, there should be a neurocratic Mayor of New York, but a Republican Legislature could take out of the hands of the Mayor the nower of approval or rejection. One desirable effect of the Board of the Mayor of the consideration of focal measures long enough to enable those who have vork understoned to such hands of the Mayor of New York, plut a Republican Legislature could take out of the hands of the Mayor of the hands of the Mayor of the consideration of local measures long enough to enable those who have vo

STEEPLECHASING NEWS. CAPT. BLAKE THINKS THE N. S. A. SHOULD OWN A GROUND.

> If Laments the Lack of Gentlemen Riders and Shows How It Can Be Remedled-More Races Wanted for Munters with Owners Up-Small Courses with Jumps on the Turns Are Beclared Bangerous, The promised revival of steeplechasing is the

absorbting topic among admirers of that sport, and some of the criticisms and suggestions gleaned from the experts show that promoters of "the illegitimate game," as it is styled in England, have a wide field for experimenting. Capt. Jex Blake, a retired officer of the English army, is chock full of the subject, and his opin-ions are founded on long familiarity with the chaser and his capabilities. He has been in touch with the sport for a quarter of a century, and owned at one time the famous little chaser Abd-el-Kader, which won the Liverpool Grand National two years in succession. Capt. Blake has long been known to racing men of this country as superintendent of the Monmouth Park and Cedarhurst tracks. In discussing the future of steeplechasing in this country Capt. Blake says:

"I think it ought to prove a very big success under the present management. The gentle-men who are now taking an active interest in its have only to strike out a new line and abolish such old-time methods as have been tried in the balance and found wanting. The courses, here-tofore, have been too confined and it was difficult to bring off a race without an accident.
Where the circuit is too small, jumps have to be placed on the sharp turns and the consequent danger to horses and jockeys is great. To avoid this I think the present National Steeplechase Association should own their own ground and construct a regular steeplechese track on it.

"The course should be built with every variety of jumps, of a good, reasonable height, such as are designed for Morris Park. They might then have a responsible man on hand competent to take and train horses for individual owners, giving him the privilege of laying out a schooling ground without interfering with the regular course reserved for National Steeplechase Association meetings. With such facilities gentle-men could ride and practise on their own horses and acquire the confidence and skill requisite to steer a chaser over a regular steeplechase course. There is no greater drawback to the sport here than the paucity of competent professional jockeys and the almost entire absence of gentlemen riders.

"I attribute the great success of steeplechasing in England to the interest which is taken in the sport by gentlemen who are able to hold their own with professionals in the big struggles between the flags. Hunting to hounds here affords little or no practice. The only sort of jump one is likely to meet is a rail fence. The nature of the country in England makes is much easier to school good steeplechasers on account of the great variety of fences which

much easier to school good steeplechasers on account of the great variety of feaces which horses have to negotiate when out with hounds. During a day's hunting in almost any county in England you jump at least seven or eight different kinds of feaces, including water. It is dovious, therefore, that the chaser and his rider must rely more for their schooling on artificial courses here.

"A good way to encourage amateur steeplechase riding would be to give at least one race at each meeting confined entirely to horses, with owners up, that have hunted regularly with a pack of hounds. This seems a feasible method of setting the younger members to take an interest in steeplechasing. That interest would soon increase when a man found he owned a horse who was not only a good jumper, but fast, the experience, of course, would have to come by degrees, but it is astonishing how the interest increases when a man and horse become thoroughly acquainted with one another. In issuing hunters' certificates masters of hounds have got to be a great deal more rigid than in the past, I once had to remonstrate with one of the best masters in this country on this subject. Certain horses were paraded at his hunt simply to secure official notice. They were not bona-fide hunters, and had never really finished a run. No hunter ought to have a certificate unless he has carried his owner through at least five runs.

"It is difficult to estimate the chances of prement flat racing horses take kindly to jumping and have had good schooling, they may will some races over hurdles, but over steeplechase tracks my experience tells me that no matter how good a jumper, a young horse gets leg weary, and this fact counts for many falls sustained by young horses. I confess I am rather sweet on two horses owned by a thorough all-round sportsman living in Brooklyn. One of the pair showed great promise last year as a timber topper, in addition to which he has a fair amount of speed. I allude to St. Anthony, and I shall be disappointed if he does not run v

on May 4 and 8. My second fancy is St. Anthony's stable companion, Dwight.

"The two best steeplechasers I have seen during my connection with American racing were undoubtedly Trouble and Postguard. It would be impossible to make a comparison between the English and American chaser. No horse taken from this country direct, without having been schooled over the fences and ploughed fields which he would have to negotiate at Aintree, could win the Liverpool Grand National at the first time of asking, even if put in at 109 pounds."

PROPOSED NEWS TATES.

Various Plans Suggested for Readjusting Parts of the Union.

Should the scheme to create a new State out of counties now in northern Minnesota and northern Wisconsin and the whole of the upper peniusula of Michigan be carried out, the resultant Commonwealth would embrace a thinly populated territory of more than 40,000 square miles. Minnesota and Michigan would be the chief contributors of territory. The population of the northern peninsula of Michigan was, according to the last census, something ever 115,-000, and then rapidly increasing. The other scraps from Wisconsin and Minnesota have a population of over 200,000, so that the proposed State would have, upon the basis of the last census, over 315,000 inhabitants if the shadowy outlines of the scheme are to be trusted.

There have been a great many like schemes for the formation of new States from contiguous parts of old ones, but the case of West Virginis is the sole instance since the adoption of the Federal Constitution in which a State has been actually divided, and that partition was effected as a war measure while Virginia was yet a part of the Southern Confederacy. When Texas came into the Union she was admitted with the stipulation that four States might as some future time be made of her territory, but it would be a serious undertaking at this day to effect the partition of Texas, whose territory is now equal nearly to one-third of the whole area of this country, exclusive of Alaska.

There has been a long-standing preposition to make a single State of the Delaware peninsula, and the shocking name Delmarvia has been suggested for the State to indicate its territorial composition. Of the States concerned, Dela-ware alone has shown any friendly interest in the scheme, and she would hardly give up her ancient name even in return for territory that would nearly troble her area and double her population. Maryland and Virginia have shown

would nearly treole her area and nouse hew nothing but opposition to the scheme, and the nine counties of the former and the two of the latter that would be involved prefer their old allegiance and their old status as "the Eastern Shore" to losing their identity by becoming part of Belaware.

The most significant scheme for combining politically distinct but geographically contiguous territory into a single State is that which looks to the disposal of Nevada, a State steadily decreasing in population, and now having least than many a thinly populated county, yet sending a Representative and two Senators to Congress. The proposition to annex Utah to Nevada, and thus give the former a population worthy of a full-fledged State does not please Utah. Unless Arizona, the only other Territory contiguous to Nevada, can be annexed to her the present anomaly of 40,000 people with a voice in the United States Senate equal to that of New York must continue until Nevada shall consent to became a part of one of her neighbors unless, indeed, something shall occur to increase her population.

There is a long-standing proposition to out

to became a part of one of her neighbors, unless, indeed, something shall occur to increase her population.

There is a long-standing proposition to out New York city loose from the rural counties and erect it into a State, and something very like this was recently proposed for Chicago. Meanwhile several States are looking with envious eyes upon outlying portions of their neighbors' territory. Maryland has pending a suit that may deprive West Virginia of several hundred square miles, and actually leave the State in two parts with alien territory between them. Pelaware has recently gained a slice of Pennsylvania, and Mr. Cleveland has just undertaken to decide whether Delaware shall nave undisturbed possession of the bed of Delaware River, opposite New Castle, and across to the low tide mark on the New Jersey shore. That portion of Florida lying west of the Chattahoochee ought, geographically, to be a part of Alabama, though the latter has no historic claim to the territory.